

Paul D. Petersen
Assessor



301 West Jefferson Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
Phone: (602) 506-3406
www.maricopa.gov/assessor

Maricopa County

Contact: Michael Combrink
Tel: 602.372.9275
Cell Phone: 602.509.8085
Email: CombrinkM@Mail.Maricopa.Gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona Wins the IAAO Virginia Cup

Phoenix – On Aug. 29, 2016, the state of Arizona was awarded the 26th Annual Virginia Cup from the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO). The Virginia Cup is awarded at the IAAO Annual Conference, this year in Tampa Bay, Florida, to the state with the most IAAO professional designations. Arizona won the Cup this year, with 17 designees from Maricopa County, one from Yavapai County, and two from the Arizona Department of Revenue. In the 26 years the IAAO has been awarding the Cup, this is the first year Arizona has won.

Starting last year, Assessor Paul Petersen, working with the local AZ IAAO chapter, identified the Virginia Cup as a goal for his office, and the state, in the upcoming year. "By focusing on the professional designation from IAAO, our staffers developed their professionalism, built their expertise, and expanded their knowledge base in the world of appraisal and assessment practices. Not only that, they also set a goal as a group, and achieved that goal as a group, through studying together, working as a team, and tutoring each other," said Assessor Petersen, "I could not be more proud of my 17 staffers this year who diligently worked to receive their designation".

The professional designation from IAAO is considered the profession's highest certification degree and a mark of excellence in the field of assessment. Designees choose from five designations, specializing in different fields from The Residential Evaluation Specialist to The Cadastral Mapping Specialist. The requirements to complete a designation include a course of required educational classes in assessment practices and theory, and an experience requirement in time spent as an appraiser. The designation is a rigorous and challenging course, so much so that IAAO gives candidates five years to complete and achieve their designation.

For more information on the designation program please call IAAO at (816) 701-8137, or contact the Maricopa County Assessor's Office, at (602) 506-3406, visit our website at mcassessor.maricopa.gov, or view our Twitter feed or Facebook @MCAssessor.

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